

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

11-11-11
p69 Bnh
Sunshine, rain, and fresh air; they all combine to produce ★ ~~MARY~~ ★
and mine the tree supreme, New Hampshire White Pine.

Our forefathers, after what was in those days a long and U.S. Bureau of Forests
ney from the Bay State Colony, hewed and built themselves homes out of a wilder-
ness of white pine. With only a whipsaw or an adz they fashioned beams,
rafters, and boards from the towering pine trees which grew on every hand.
Many of these homes are in an excellent state of preservation today.

Time wore on; the once modest clearings expanded into villages; the
villages became towns, and the towns cities. Where the crude whipsaw of the
tiny water mill once held sway there sprang into existence the forerunner of
the great sawmills of to-day, all owing their growth and prosperity to New
Hampshire white pine.

To-day as Yesterday, White Pine Reigns Supreme

Of the lumber cut in New Hampshire, 56 per cent is white pine.

During the last two years New Hampshire ranked third in the lumber cut
of white pine in the United States.

Nearly 50 per cent of our wood products are made from white pine.

More than 9,000 persons gain their living from industries utilizing
white pine. Families have been educated, mortgages paid off, and prosperity
achieved, all through the medium of white pine.

Today the estimated value of the white pine in New Hampshire is between
twenty-five and thirty millions of dollars.

Nearly 68 per cent of New Hampshire timberlands are owned by individuals.

Much of this timberland is held by farmers and small owners, and, aside
from fuel wood, white pine is the main product of their woodlots.

There are communities in New Hampshire whose industries have thrived for
years -- and are still doing so -- owing to a plentiful local supply of white
pine. There should be a great many more such permanent wood-using centers.

Like most valuables, white pine has an enemy which if not controlled will
do a great damage.

The Nature of Blister Rust and Its Development

White-pine blister rust is a disease which lives in the bark of white-
pine trees and on the leaves of currants and gooseberry bushes, both wild and
cultivated. The disease enters the pine through the needles and gradually
works downward through the bark to the twigs and branches, killing them as it
goes. It finally reaches the trunk and kills the tree by girdling.

Rumors are continually arising and many misstatements made regarding the
nature and spread of blister rust. Therefore, the following points are well
worth remembering:

1. Blister rust is not a bug or a worm.
2. Blister rust attacks no other forest tree but the white pines.
3. Blister rust can not spread direct from one pine to another.
4. Blown by the wind, it spreads from infected currant or goose-
berry bushes to white pines.
5. The removal of currant and gooseberry bushes stops the spread
of blister rust to pine growth.
6. Blister rust kills white pine.
7. The work of eradicating currant and gooseberry bushes can be
and is efficiently done by experienced State crews working
under proper supervision.

Present Known Distribution of Blister Rust in New Hampshire

In the limited space of this circular it is impossible to present a comprehensive picture of the amount and extent of infection found to date on white pines. In 1915 blister rust was known in but one town. To-day, white pines infected by this fatal disease have been located in 214 towns and cities.

While control work was under way last year thousands of new pine infections were reported by the scouts and crew foreman in this district alone.

In order that the public might have some local facts, studies have been made of a number of different "pine-infection areas" throughout the State. A few are listed below for your information. These areas vary in size from one-quarter of an acre to more than fifty acres.

Location of tract	Per cent of Pine Infected by blister rust.
Acworth	70
Alexandria	72 - 94
Charlestown	20
Hanover	73
Littleton	55
Lisbon	91
Hanover	96
Lyne	72
Wentworth	59
Newbury	49
Sunapee	40
Nelson	92

There are many more areas, but space does not permit the listing of them.

That currant and gooseberry bushes are the only means by which the rust is spread from pine to pine was again proved through a study of these areas. In these areas where the bushes were destroyed NO NEW INFECTIONS HAVE DEVELOPED.

What Has Been Accomplished in the Control of Blister Rust

The people of New Hampshire have expressed a widespread interest in control work. Since the spring of 1918 the destruction of currant and gooseberry bushes has been carried on by the State Forestry Commission cooperating financially with towns, cities, and individuals.

From 1918 to 1928, inclusive, 187 towns and cities in New Hampshire have been cooperating with the State Forestry Commission in the control of white-pine blister rust. To date more than 26 million currants and gooseberry bushes have been destroyed on areas totaling 2,055,103 acres. The progress of this work is shown by the fact that in 1918 only 23,091 acres were eradicated, while in 1924 there were 326,458 acres examined, and gains are still being made each year. The average cost per acre for all control work in New Hampshire has been about 19 cents. Lest some might get the wrong impression, it should be explained that there is a wide variation in the cost of control work, and it seems wise to mention that the average cost stated above is the average for ALL work in the State for the period of 1918 to 1928, inclusive. The cost of individual areas or town projects will vary according to the number of currant and gooseberry bushes, the conditions under which they are found, and the size

of the project. The range of cost runs from four cents to one dollar an acre. There are 60 towns and cities which have so consistently carried on control work that their entire pine areas have been gone over once and the currant and gooseberry bushes destroyed. When other communities in this State will be paying the drastic toll which blister rust exacts, these 60 towns and cities which have applied control measures and protected their white pine will occupy an enviable position.

Continuance of Control Work

In spite of the progress made in blister-rust control, there yet remains much pine growth which ought to receive protection from the disease. There are 30 towns in New Hampshire which have never taken any steps toward controlling the white-pine blister rust disease. There are also many towns which have started the work but yet have pine areas unprotected. Many of these towns can come into a class with the 60 towns already completed if they carry on eradication work one or two more years.

Blister rust has shown itself capable of causing great loss among young as well as mature stands of pine growth. It has no regard for age or size of the tree it attacks. Blister rust works stealthily and seldom gives, to those unfamiliar with it, any outward indication of its presence until too late.

How Must Control Work Be Carried On?

By towns and individuals. The State Forestry Commission will assist---

Towns: By increasing town appropriations 25 per cent; that is, for each \$400 town appropriation the State gives \$100.

By Free supervision of control work.

The Pine owner: By furnishing free of charge an experienced crew foreman, provided the owner pays the wages of the crew.

By FREE supervision of control work.

For further information regarding this disease or the proper control methods or other information regarding your woodlot, address

Geo. F. Richardson, Jr., Agent,
Blister Rust Control,
Room 17, Bank Block, Lebanon, N. H.

(New Hampshire Forestry Commission and United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry, Cooperating.)

February 15, 1929.

